

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A moisture exposure indicating golf ball which changes appearance upon exposure to moisture to indicate that otherwise invisible characteristics of said golf ball have been altered due to said exposure, comprising:

materials providing said golf ball with predetermined characteristics of play including weight, size, spherical symmetry, overall distance, initial velocity, and other flight characteristics conforming to golf ball characteristic standards; and,

imprints on said golf ball made with a water activated marking material which changes appearance to indicate that the performance characteristics of said ball have been altered due to said exposure, whereby otherwise playable golf balls retrieved from water hazards can be identified as having altered performance characteristics due to said exposure.

2. The moisture exposure indicating golf ball of claim 1 wherein said water activated marking material is a transparent marking material that appears upon exposure to moisture.

3. The moisture exposure indicating golf ball of claim 1 wherein said water activated marking material is a vanishing marking material that disappears upon exposure to moisture.

4. A golf ball, comprising:

one or more layers of construction, and

imprints on said golf ball made with a water activated marking material which changes appearance upon the exposure to moisture.

5. The golf ball of claim 4 wherein said water activated marking material is a transparent marking material that appears upon exposure to moisture.

6. The golf ball of claim 4 wherein said water activated marking material is a vanishing marking material that disappears upon exposure to moisture.

7. . A golf ball, comprising:
- an inner core comprising one or more layers of construction,
- an outer shell, and
- imprints on said golf ball made with a water activated marking material which changes appearance upon the exposure to moisture.
8. The moisture exposure indicating golf ball of claim 7 wherein said water activated marking material is a transparent marking material that appears upon exposure to moisture.
9. The golf ball of claim 7 wherein said water activated marking material is a vanishing marking material that disappears upon exposure to moisture.
10. A golf ball comprising:
- materials providing said golf ball with predetermined characteristics of play including weight, size, spherical symmetry, overall distance, initial velocity, and other flight characteristics conforming to golf ball characteristic standards; and,
- imprints on said golf ball made with a water activated marking material which changes appearance to indicate that the performance characteristics of said ball have been altered, whereby otherwise playable golf balls can be identified as having altered performance characteristics due to the occurrence of an event.
11. The golf ball of claim 10 wherein said water activated marking material is a transparent marking material that appears upon the occurrence of an event.
12. The golf ball of claim 10 wherein said water activated marking material is a vanishing marking material that disappears upon the occurrence of an event.

13. A moisture exposure indicating golf ball which changes appearance upon exposure to moisture to indicate that otherwise invisible characteristics of said golf ball have been altered due to said exposure, comprising:

materials providing said golf ball with predetermined characteristics of play including weight, size, spherical symmetry, overall distance, initial velocity, and other flight characteristics conforming to golf ball characteristic standards; and,

a moisture activated material introduced in solid, liquid, or gaseous form within or onto said golf ball and subject to infusion of moisture into said ball due to the moisture permeability of said ball's materials thereof which changes appearance to indicate that the performance characteristics of said ball have been altered due to said exposure, whereby otherwise playable golf balls exposed to moisture can be identified as having altered performance characteristics due to the exposure thereof.

14. A golf ball, comprising:

one or more layers of construction, and

a material provided in liquid, solid, or gaseous form between, on or in any of said layers which causes a change in appearance to said ball upon the presence of moisture without changing the shape of said ball.